BEST PRACTICE INDUSTRY	SUMMARY
World Class Insurance	This summary presents best practices used for call center staffing and organizational budgeting.
Company	 Staffing Manages workload, but HR manages staffing - usually at an administrative role, but is heavily involved in decision-making for executive management positions.
	 Forecasting Call center has a clear picture of the workload volume by phone. Managers use this information to schedule by the half-hour how many representatives they need to cover the number of estimated calls. The call center has a technical manager who schedules the representatives and functional manager who manages the representatives.
	Develops a 5-year, flexible staffing plan, and also trend analysis by office. Develops a forecast and profile based on business volume forecasts, manpower positions, workload volumes, budgets, operational measures, expenses, and revenues
	Uses regression analysis to merge its 2 workload measures into workload measurement and tracking data. The information is then tied to financial information for budgeting purposes.
	Manpower resource analysis is completed every year by the managers of each division that follows a spectemplate
	At any point, data can be extracted to observe the workload volume of a representative or division at this company.
	Inputs and pending work are reviewed by management or on an as needed basis
	Outputs are captured and reported monthly to identify the status of workload by activity/function for each division and any inefficiencies that exist
	 Made up of a manpower team and 2-process review teams. Its role is to be management consultants, provide checks and balances, act as a catalyst for change, and as a manpower resource bookkeeper. Provides business process reviews, organizational structure changes, facilitation, manpower requirements modeling, manpower change processing, special studies.

 World Class Insurance Company Planning Budget Forecasts (PBF) are developed for 2-year increments. Prior to the initial budget estimates, the Executive Council gives each division a high level objective to follow including an all-inclusive dollar celling. Budgets are reviewed and approved at an Operational Planning Conference. The dollar celling assigns each expense to a portion of the total dollar amount (i.e., x% will be spent on staffing). If a division proposes to increase the manpower by 10% they should also have a 10% increase in volume or profit estimate. Large Government Contractor This best practices summary addresses issues of staffing management and budgeting. Staffing Organizes workload according to work packages or projects, and includes the amount of resources necessary to complete the job. Outputs are deliverables specified in coniracts and vary by project. Each project is assigned a project code that tracks employee hours, expenses incurred, and other project costs using a formula for assigning a time and cost value to workload categories. Councils/Boards are common management tenfinque; consists of high level executives representing each part of the organization (Resource Board, Process Improvement Board, Leadership Board) Resource Board: makes staffing decisions by consensus and projects future needs on a monthly basis; use historical project information to determine staffing needs in 6-9 month time frames; works a s a team to match surpluses in one area with needed requirements in another. Boards allow front-line managers to concentrate on performance instead of hunting for his/her own staff. Boards are established with responsible individuals from each organization that then allocates budgets or resources that were previously unassigned; the board collectively determine budgets, resulting in fewer complaints, and a bigger incentive to ope			Pudgeting
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Office of Data Management (ODM)	 system and gross productivity and work measurement reports that are generated from the DOOR system. "Umbrella" offices includes budget, performance management, finance and planning staff, which are support offices for the 5 business lines integrated under the agency This best practices illustrates methods of workload management and team formation and responsibilites. Service Delivery Networks (SDN): new initiative to encourage the sharing of workloads and help alleviate staffing inaccuracies nationwide. 4-9 regional offices are grouped together to form these networks. SDNs create incentive to share work amongst employees and creates a culture that will better promote the mission of the agency as opposed to individual offices. Team leaders (facilitators) of the SDN and other regional office directors oversee the sharing of workloads. Decisions to transfer work between regional offices is a team decision Recognition has been placed on team levels rather than individual levels or regional levels. Self-Directed work teams is their ultimate goal.
Manufacturing Company A:	 This best practices includes call center structuring, team development and staffing management Business is broken into 2 segments: Ongoing Maintenance (OGM) and Non-Ongoing Maintenance (Non-OGM). There is an attempt to plan for OGM in detail using past work measurement data and forecasting, but Non-OGM planning is based on trends. There is no work control center, but the organization is a team-based organization with one manager for every team, and is somewhat centralized. Each team typically consists of several workgroups that work together. Each workgroup contains 1-8 representatives. Call Center Staffing
	 There is a call center that fields all customer requests through a 1-800 number. Representatives there attempt to assist the customers who are calling with a problem with scripts. Scripts contain frequently asked questions and their solutions. If a representative is unable to assist the customer by phone, a customer service representative is dispatched. Capturing time it takes to complete service and cost value for doing so is done through trend analysis and includes any scheduled improvements or changes to a machine. Most analysis is based on calls per million produced.
	 Takes a proactive approach to head-off calls to the center: managers ask service teams to identify the top 10-15 poor performing machines in their area, and they visit the customers using the machines to better understand what the issues are with that particular machine. Looks at actual workload volumes from the previous year for each machine and estimates work volumes for the next year. Workload measurement data identifies workload volumes and the average time and cost to complete service.
Global Best Practices: Health Care Industry	This best practice illustrates the methods and benefits of appropriate scheduling techniques. Methods:

	Negotiate the use of block scheduling with physicians based on automated scheduling reports of utilization
	of scheduling blocks and/or potential volume that physicians can bring to the facility.
	Use schedulers who exercise excellent judgment in scheduling cases based on knowledge of clinical
	procedures, equipment requirements, past surgeon performance, and surgeon preferences and practices.
	Scheduler must understand the clinical procedures and know the equipment, so use a registered nurse as a
	scheduler because of the experience of the individual and because there is less time and expense to train a new clerical person.
	Educate the physician's office staff on what scheduling information, patient criteria and equipment
	requirements are needed to enable effective scheduling of the case.
	Implement a reporting process to inform the physicians of their utilization and efficiency
	Provide easy access to facilitate changes in the block scheduling if necessary
	Benefits:
	Accurate and efficient allocation of labor and equipment
	Minimize physician waiting time
	On-time starts typically 10% higher
	Improved decision making regarding block utilization and assignment because of better information.
	Better communication with the patient regarding information required on the day of surgery.
"Forecasting and the"	This best practices case discussed the criteria for best in class for inventory control:
Continuous	Build networks of regional warehouses to handle customer needs.
Replenishment Craze of	Making forecasting useful and relevant:
the 1990's" by Kenneth	Use Praxis Forecasting, which defines skill and discipline required to develop weekly sales forecasts that
Frasier-Sleyman	satisfy the demands of distribution network.
Journal of Business	Emphasize managerial skills over technical skills, with less concern for preciseness than if they produce
Forecasting	satisfactory economic results.
Hewlett-Packard	Established a system called Interlock that calls for regular communication across the company's three core
	businesses.
	Monthly telephone conferences among key business unit executives focus on critical issues and ways to
	coordinate and reap advantages from common manufacturing resources, technological platforms, and
	distribution channels
Du Pont	A single manager has been given oversight responsibilities for all of the company's pilot plants, which
	generally are in use about half the time. Ideally, a single manager will facilitate better scheduling of projects
	that use the pilot plants.
Rockwell International	Adheres to a principle of "horizontal synergy" through which autonomous business units share ideas and
(Manufactures aerospace	resources.
telecommunications	Enabled organization to draw on its expertise in the defense industry in designing products for the
equipment)	commercial market.
National Breakdown	Establishes dedicated inquiry/response center(s) with the capability to share information and react quickly

	Commercial Recovery Ltd.	(the breakdown control centers are staffed 24 hours a day).	
	(UK)	 Monitors inquiries and use the information to improve business performance. 	
•	Chaparral Steel	Encourages employees to participate in cross-functional project teams.	
	•	• Employees take responsibility for daily operations, chipping in (informally) when solutions are needed.	
•	Large Government	Teams focusing on fiber optics and surface mount technology were created with the goal of producing	
	Contractor	perfect products on schedule and within budget.	
		• Team members learned to view one another as resources.	
		Broke jobs into tasks and skills rather than job descriptions.	
		·	
•	Department of Energy:	Combines elements of federal and state policy, plant policy, physical plant particulars, maintenance	
	Maintenance Importance	personnel data, customer organization expertise, and maintenance expertise to develop a numeric value for	or
	Generator Program	each work order and establish priorities	
	_	Uses risk ranking data in an expert system to accomplish the ranking	
•	Texas Instruments	This best practice focused on organizational structure, particularly one focused on customers.	
		• Structured an organizational framework in a pyramid according to product, process, and function in a	
		hierarchy. Process is subordinated to product (to ensure customer focus) and is prior to function to counted	er
		the creation of barriers to high performing process flows.	
		• Functional organization forms the base to meet resource needs of the product and process organizations for	or
		ensuring compliance with regulatory authorities. Hierarchy is reinforced by supporting measurement.	
•	Global Best Practices:	This Arthur Andersen best practices focuses on the central theme of effective planning and scheduling to meet	
	Production (5.2.2)	company goals and objectives through specific team formation and responsibilities.	
		• <u>Supervisory committee</u> : advises analysis team on policy matters and makes people available when needed	
		reviews the plan for operational acceptability representing the viewpoints of sales, production, and financ	ce
		• <u>Analysis team</u> : involved in day-to-day activities of production planning and scheduling; investigates	
		manufacturing and distribution processes, mapping out on paper how the processes work now and how	
		they might work better in the future.	
		• <u>Production planning</u> : identifying the resources needed to produce a product and allocating these resource	es
		to produce the product at the best total cost	
		• <u>Production scheduling</u> : balances quantity of work among departments and work centers, keeps on-hand	
		labor employed, and ensures that production keeps pace with product demand	
		Objectives of planning and scheduling:	
		reduce or eliminate lead time between customer demand and product delivery	
		Scheduling responds to current demand and minimize output fluctuations	
		Production planning is a longer term function that enables production to respond to future demand	
		Provides critical decision making information to:	
		Executive level managers, who compare planned production v. actual production	
		Operational managers who schedule overtime and extra shifts	

- Inventory managers, who measure production against demand and stock levels
- Purchasing managers, who need to know lead times to avoid stockouts and missed orders
- · Sales and marketing managers, who need to know if production is not meeting customer demand
- Prerequisites for production planning and scheduling:
- Records and reports (basic information, available materials and resources, historical records)
- Manufacturing planning (product development, human resources and equipment needs)
- Equipment loading
- Sales forecasting
- Purchasing
- When Creating a production plan:
 - Allow for the time that it takes to adjust to changes in production rates and levels
 - Use daily and weekly plans to factor in holidays and vacation peaks
 - Avoid building overtime into the plan; reserve it as a means for dealing with the unexpected
 - Establish in advance the circumstances that justify a change in the production plan and change production plans only when these circumstances arise
 - Create a unique production plan for each major manufacturing facility
 - Write the production plan in simple, direct language to make it easy to use
 - Add sales and production figures to the plan as they become available for comparing actual figures with planned figures; analyze variance to refine planning assumptions
 - Operating schedules are linked to due dates and kept valid by rescheduling when due dates change. Production control involves scheduling dates by operations and reviewing jobs that are due to ship in the current and upcoming weeks, as well as those that are past due, to determine the problems causing the delays. A production schedule review report is sent to all people affected by production, including sales and marketing people, to let them know when jobs will be shipped
- Scheduling rules:
 - First come first served the oldest job is next in the queue
 - Value priority preference is given to items with the highest dollar value
 - Critical machine jobs that must go through critical machines with limited capacity are run first
 - Least processing time the fastest, easiest jobs are completed first
- Resource loading guidelines:
 - Determine the hours needed to perform each operation and hours needed to complete the entire job if no loading delays occur
 - Identify the earliest date available for scheduling each operation
 - Determine the possible completion date dictated by each operation by adding the hours needed to perform the operation onto the earliest date available. The operation with the latest completion date is the bottleneck
 - Schedule the bottleneck operation to begin on the earliest date possible

- Schedule subsequent operations as early as possible, and schedule prior operations as late as possible.
- Measure performance
- Eight tips:
- Gather clear statements of objectives and policies from management
- Carefully prepare facts to present to management
- Provide all related functions with the training and information needed to understand the current business environment and the overall production process
- Know the activities of related groups and functions and their objectives in the process
- Keep planning separate from and ahead of performance
- Break large undertakings down into a number of small simple ones

STRATEGY II: Adopt Organiz	ational Competency-based Workforce Planning Strategies
BEST PRACTICE INDUSTRY	SUMMARY
World Class Insurance Company	HR attempts to keep jobs/descriptions the same or similar to alleviate the administrative burden of maintaining multiple job descriptions for similar work. If a position requires more than the basic skills, human resources work with the requesting manager to form a new position
Global Best Practices: Health Care Industry and Human Resources Management	 The focus of this best practice is on cross-training and its benefits Cross-train operating room nurses to be multiskilled in several procedures allows multitasking, for example, they can scrub as well as circulate in the rooms Benefits: Maximize staff Increased capabilities to respond to all situations Eliminates the potential for surgeons to request specific nurses on their cases Maximizes surgical staff's time and expedites room flow Allows for the ability to call in staff to fill in for missing staff members as necessary Approaches: Cross train the admitting nurse, preoperative nurses, post-anesthesia care unit nurses, and the post-operative nurses to be cross functional Consider rotating the staff through each function on a weekly or biweekly basis to build comfort and expertise in all aspects of care Cross train the surgical nursing staff to perform multiple specialties as well as scrub and circulate. Hospitals that have a hospital dedicated unit or main OR often share inservices across areas to maximize
Global Best Practices: Managing Workloads	 OR staff expertise. This best practice focuses on cross-training staff, and the relevevant benefits. Cross-training meter readers and other field service employees to manage work loads efficiently Benefits: Allows utility to manage work loads more efficiently and effectively by enabling resource redeployment to and from the meter reading activity during busy and slow periods Enables meter readers and other utility employees to migrate between meter reading, collections, field services, or other utility positions, resulting in higher levels of employee satisfaction and reduced cost of recruiting and training outside hires. Approaches: Negotiate and adopt flexible job classifications in labor agreements Train meter readers to perform other utility tasks including collections, equipment tuning, service connection/disconnection and customer inquiry. Train other utility field services or customer services employees to perform the meter reading function

	Develop and implement performance incentive programs that support cross training objectives and enable employees to temporarily support other utility activities without penalizing their measured performance of their primary activity.
Pfizer Company	• Developed "competency models" for its treasury executives that call for more than basic finance skills. Knowledge building and knowledge sharing are considered critical for management as the company strives to create linkages across the organization
Harley Davidson, Inc.	 This best practice illustrates the use of learning to support existing core competencies and create new ones. A new operating agreement with 2 major labor unions focuses on making Harley-Davidson a high-performance workplace. Stresses education, offering employees 80 hours of training/year Emphasizes that workers possess what it calls its 3 competencies: interaction competencies for communication and team skills, execution competencies for solving problems and making decisions, and technical competencies for task operation and commitment.
Porsche	 Abandoned its traditional craftsmanship, which involved rendering parts to fit perfectly Funneled creative efforts into finding inventive ways to make manufacturing process move without interruption Founded own consulting group to sell its knowledge base of best practices and lessons learned to other German car manufacturers
Naval Avionics Center	 Designed a scheduling system based on specific organizational requirements including negotiating workload, replying to sponsor inquiries, and ensuring a fixed turnaround time to accommodate limited resources and work expedition. Workflow system provides weekly and monthly forecasts
NASA Kennedy Space Center	Developed a system with 4 components that creates an automated process for managing consistent work instructions and related data, scheduling, planning, resource availability functions, work release and execution, historical reference
Harris Semiconductor	 Each team develops a skills matrix that accounts for the background and capabilities of each team member to achieve the team's overall goals. Team focus on major goals has produced substantial gains in product yields and reductions in cycle times
McDonnell Douglas Aerospace	 This best practice shows the integration of a scheduling system into the manufacturing process. Integrates manual and automatic shop floor processes with computer integrated planning, scheduling and control.

- Schedules and tracks work using inputs from the planning system. The system supplies a package including text and graphics required accomplishing the assigned task. It automatically updates information using the latest instructions and collects an audit-ready, as built history.
 - System collects and provides online visibility of labor hours expended and produced. It is also used by management to report on cycle times, etc.
- Arthur Andersen's KnowledgeSpace: Definition of Competencies

This Arthur Andersen best practice focuses on organizational competencies. Organizational Competencies are the sum of all of the competencies employees possess. This sum determines the organization's ability to produce or provide products or services to meet or exceed client expectations.

- Team competencies are the competencies that must be possessed by a group of individuals responsible for
 producing or providing a product or service. Within the team, who must possess each competency is
 determined by the role played by that individual. The team should be comprised of individuals who
 possess and/or are able to develop the necessary competencies to provide or produce the product or service
- Individual competencies are those competencies that must be possessed to be effective in a role or position within an organization.
- The marketplace drives the business's vision, mission, goals, and strategies, which drive the products and services, which define organizational competencies, which drive team competencies, which drive individual competencies
- All levels of competencies are driven by and directly linked to the business vision and mission, goals and objectives, and strategies of an organization
- Competencies should be able to be observed and measured. They include at least 2 levels overall competency, such as leadership, project management, etc., and the breakdown of the skills, knowledge, or attitudes that comprise that competency
- Competency-based management (CBM) is a managerial approach that reduces complexity, adds capacity, and increases overall capability. It involves identifying the competencies that distinguish high performers from average performers. It condenses competencies from the complex web of roles, responsibilities, goals, skills, knowledge, and abilities that determine an employee's effectiveness.
- That complex system of employee related areas operates within an even more complex system: the organization. Often, the only thread that ties together "people processes" is a manager's biases about what makes an employee successful. To an employee, what is the link between such elements as his/her performance evaluation, pay increase, training, job assignment, transfer, and promotion? It's the manager's perception of the employee. If that perception is accurate and articulated well, that's positive for the employee. But more often, the manager's perception is either inaccurate or incomplete. Or the employee does not understand it. Even when employees understand a manager's perception of success, other managers' perceptions may be different. That can make an employee's path through the career development maze hazardous, confusing and tricky.
- The thinking is that employees are bound to be effective if they're assessed and trained properly and if their job responsibilities and skills are clearly written. But that requires a huge control center. Rigid job

	descriptions are also counter to the reality of constant change within organizations and the need for greater flexibility and less hierarchy. Instead, organizations need broad roles that encourage fewer boundaries. Instead of narrow skills, employees should strive for broad skills that increase their flexibility and speed and that lessen the need for managers to coordinate work.
Global Best Practices:	This Arthur Andersen best practice focuses on the identification and use of key competencies to help an
Competencies: The Next	organization succeed.
Generation (8.2.2)	 Competencies are key to enhancing those intangible factors such as the quality of the workforce, organizational knowledge, and customer loyalty, which are hallmarks of successful companies. The goal of most competency initiatives is "to produce the ideal profiles for a salesperson, supervisor, or some other type of employee". Guidelines: Simplify models and make them more user-friendly by eliminating jargon and excessive detail Involve employees in the modeling process to infuse greater power and accountability throughout the company Start by identifying organizational competencies, then specific job competencies; give employees the
	 start by identifying organizational competencies, their specific job competencies, give employees the necessary tools and training to define their own work competencies Increase the emphasis on the application of competencies and away from the analysis of them. Develop models that integrate descriptions of the work to be done with descriptions of how it should be done.

BEST PRACTICE INDUSTRY	SUMMARY
World Class Insurance	Uses automation (UNIX-based system) to track outputs, cycle-times, level of effort/output
Company	UNIX-based system captures inputs, outputs, and work in progress
 Large Government Contractor 	This best practice illustrates the use of various MIS tools to improve the efficiency of various organizational tasks.
	• Various Management Information Systems (MIS) are used to track costs; ATLAS system tracks time and attendance data; though information is inputted daily, the system posts information to the ledger once a week and the data is displayed aggregately by project the following Monday.
	 Work in progress data can be obtained, but must be combined with the status of the deliverables or milestones for that project to understand precise status.
	• Uses the People Utilization Report (PUR) and accounting and Management Information System (MIS) tools for tracking work measurement.
	Workload information is on-line, and is available for anyone needing the data at any time, and can be viewed by person, project and various hybrids of the information.
 World Class Insurance Company 	 Generates monthly (via its UNIX system) of customized metrics per division. Additional formats of data can be extracted on an as needed basis for analysis.
 Large Government 	This best practices shows the use of MIS to do tracking of time and work.
Services Provider	 Uses Division of Operational Resources (DOOR) System that is remotely operated on a mainframe computer.
	 Receives all information from personnel and payroll system, and the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN). Measures end products, though it does capture process data
	• As new claims are received, they are logged into the BDN System. Representatives manually assign claim numbers, and additional information is automatically assigned a 6-character code.
	• Data is captured in "work measures" (detailed, manual information) and "gross productivity" (higher-level work unit data – end products)
	 Tracks time it takes to process a claim, pending claims and time required to complete the claims from the date of receipt to date of resolution, but <i>does not track the "dead time</i>" as part of the work rate. Costs are directly retrieved from the data reported from DOOR.
	• QA of the operations is linked to the data input to the DOOR System as well as quality reviews and quality assurance studies.
	 Inputs measured include: Work rate standards (determined by doing periodic work sampling studies) are direct labor hours Human Resource PAID link:

	Contra
	• Costs
	Training hours
	Direct labor hours (work count)
	 Standard hours (total work time at a specific station (minus training, leave, sick, etc.)
	 DOOR System reports are run in a specific sequence to allow report data from some reports to feed into other reports
	Outputs measures tracked at agency: sub-end products, end products, hours
	Reportable Work Units
	Workload Indicators:
	Work in Progress: Work In Progress Process (WIPP) Subsystem was designed to assist management in
	identifying pending issues that required attention and provides information on all cases in a pending status. WIPP also identifies pending claims based on a suspense control date or on the age of the claim.
	 DOOR generates workload measurement reports called COIN DOOR reports. They are electronically distributed to and can be electronically accessed by each regional office.
	 Everyone at the agency, including field managers and staff in 5 business lines may download the reports from the system.
	Report data can be reviewed and analyzed in report form or by selecting and extracting data by WID
	number using DOOR System On-Line Query.
	COINDOOR data can also be reviewed in Executive Information System (EIS) which presents
	performance measurement data in a graphical format.
	EIS has a dynamic investigative application for analyzing strategic data from a variety of perspectives
Manufacturing Company	Customer service representatives use laptops to record all necessary workload data
A	Representatives fill out information sheets that record measurement data
	• Information is automatically forwarded to the Field Work Support System (FWSS) which calculates machine
	performance based on the information recorded
	System records who is assigned to each call and who took the call
	Measurement information is compiled and deposited into the Service Technical Performance Reporting
	(STPR) system
	Inputs, outputs and work in progress are captured via FWSS What is a second of the control of the FMSS What is a second of the control
	Work in progress can be accessed at any time from FWSS The state of the state
	• Engineers who design and build the machines within the manufacturing organization perform time and motion studies on machines to identify how often service will be needed (on average every 5 or 6 years).
	Studies evaluate processes to ensure all activities during the servicing of the machines are being captured in
	the workload measurement process data
	• Systems were built in house, and are based on Visual Basic and Oracle databases. They did not look heavily
	at off the shelf products
	After a representative "closes the call" or completes a service for a customer, the measurement data

	deposited into FWSS is forwarded to the STPR system.
	Work measurement data is compiled in monthly reports by product or location and are available for all
	employees
Global Best Practices:	This best practice shows how to manage costs and performance daily utilizing a comprehensive computer
Health Care Industry	system, and its benefits.
	The system includes scheduling, inventory control, charging, preference cards, physician and nurse
	credentialing, patient accounts, and statistical reporting.
	Benefits:
	Faster, more informed management decisions
	 Modify physician behavior and better coordination
	 More accurately predict case length resulting in increased operating room utilization
	 More effectively negotiate contracts with managed care companies to maximize revenues
	More effectively monitor departmental costs and productivity
	More accurate billing of services provided
	Identification of root causes of cancellations, delays and downtime
	Integration of ADT and material management systems will facilitate information transfer
	Director of Surgical Services along with an Information Systems specialist (outsourced or inhouse)
	develop an information systems plan that reflects the management reporting needs and integration of
	various systems. Identify information needs through discussion with the surgical team and physicians
Global Best Practices:	to determine the most efficacious way of obtaining critical data. This best practice shows the benefits of utilizing and automated scheduling system.
Health Care Industry	 This pest practice shows the benefits of utilizing and automated scheduling system. This particular scheduling system was designed to have an associated output information to monitor
Treatti Care muustry	operating room utilization, monitor requested case length against actual case length, evaluate utilization of
	block time, and coordinate equipment requirements.
	Benefits:
	Ability to identify physicians who consistently overrun
	Potential to add cases and thus increase revenues
	Utilization of operating room is 10% higher (79% v. 69%)
	Approaches:
	Identify user needs of the automated system
	 Compare and contrast external packages for their adaptability to the user needs identified
	 Review external supplier packages on the market and their adaptability to the unique situation (i.e.,
	Surgiservice, ORSOS, RESCUE, Surgicenter software)
	 Compare the external packages to the potential inhouse package
	 Ensure system has the capability to supply the relevant performance measures
	Ensure system has a good report writer
	After selection of the package conduct training

	Identify employees to be involved in training
	 Determine the reports to be utilized and customize those to the situation
	•
	• Scheduler utilizes and evaluates information in the system and not just use the system to schedule cases
	Scheduler receives reports daily
	Perform planning to facilitate input of historical data
Sears Roebuck & Co.	This best practice shows the outcomes and uses of taking a collaborative approach to developing an
(USA)	information system.
	Background:
	System is called Strategic Performance Reporting System (SPRS) that holds sales, inventory, and margin information
	• Systems developers gather functional requirements from business users, design the system, document it, and then obtain approval from the business users prior to implementation. They are also incorporating feedback from the finance department.
	New system provides a definitive response to each query
	 Management fully supports SPRS initiative with a "hands-on" approach early on. Several senior managers served on a steering committee that met weekly to oversee progress, prioritize projects, and resolve standoffs between business users and systems developers.
	Uses information to be proactive and to increase "speed of knowledge"
	Makes effective technology training immediately accessible
	• Professional trainers rather than IT employees were responsible for training they needed to train 2500 people on a new payroll application.
	• IT employees helped develop course content to help bridge the technical knowledge gap between IT engineers and professional trainers.
Fidelity Investments	Puts user productivity at the forefront when choosing an IT solution
, and the second	• IT department employees are up-to-date not only on the rapidly changing product offerings and vendors who offer them, but also on the current needs of the users in the company. They are the experts on how the
	technology and the users work together, and their knowledge is vital to an informed IT investment decision
Wal-Mart	This best practice shows the use of an automated help desk, and its overall benefits.
1,1000 5,0000 5	Built an internal help desk that anticipated the needs and expectations of users
	Automated its help desk to save money and improve the productivity of help desk technicians
	• Cut 10 minutes off every downtime incident, which translates into very significant time, cost and quality
	improvement.
	Technicians use handheld computing devices, instead of pen and paper to handle all administrative tasks,
	from picking up work orders from the central help desk to recording their support activities at the users'
	desktop.
Johns Hopkins Medicine	This best practice focuses on the skills needed for a functional help desk.
Johns Hopkins Wedlenie	Makes customer service the primary objective of the help desk
	ance customer service and primary objective of the neith desir

	I the challed a hardwister hand on their rational and the control of the control
	Hires help desk technicians based on their attitude and interpersonal skills, not their technical abilities or
	experience.
	Considers it easier to teach technical skills rather than "soft" interpersonal skills.
Customer Services West	Builds job enthusiasm among help desk employees to minimize burnout
	• Help desk technicians work on the phone 6 hours a day and spend the other 2 hours working on special projects like Web page development.
	• Use humor to combat the stress, installing punching bags or gavels for technicians to vent their frustration.
Autodesk, Inc.	Help desk employs 12 people, who process about 100,000 support requests/year and serve 1400 users
	Won the 1998 Team Excellence Award from the Help Desk Institute
Global Best Practices:	This Arthur Andersen best practice focuses on developing the company's network around business objectives.
Manage Technical	 Network managers in companies that apply best practices configure and develop networks to optimally
Environment	meet the needs of many business users.
	Only when business management clearly articulates and prioritizes their networking needs can network
	management provide optimally efficient and effective network solutions.
	Ensure that adequate, formal feedback mechanisms are in place
	Includes:
	Protect the integrity of the network
	 Only appropriate personnel should be allowed to establish connections to corporate computers
	 Additionally, all remote connections should be monitored for unusual activity
	Provide routine maintenance on all networks
	Focus on meeting users' needs
	Establish a centralized point of contact for users
	 Increased user involvement leads to higher user satisfaction and user productivity and overall system effectiveness
	Educate users on how to fully utilize the system
Global Best Practices:	Assess existing information technology systems that support critical business processes
Technology	Conduct a company-wide risk assessment of existing systems
	Evaluate systems' controls
	Create and maintain a common technology platform on workstations throughout the company
Dreamworks, SKG	Designed an overall systems architecture that met primary business requirements
	• First determined, or anticipated, the automation and business needs of each of the company's nine units and
	then designed applications that are both specific to each unit and capable of being combined into one
	centralized system.
	Considered company's growth rate, diversity of output, and need for flexibility
Global Best Practices:	This best practice shows the approaches to leverage groupware functionality to facilitate communication,
Leverage Organizational	collaboration, and coordination, and its benefits.
Knowledge	Benefits:

	Democratizes employee population, thereby fully leveraging organizational experience
	Enhances collaborative efforts and group productivity
	Minimizes barriers of geography and time
	Creates a repository for organizational knowledge
	Links the organization to supplier and customers
	Approaches:
	Create positive user awareness about groupware
	Generate user commitment to groupware before deployment
	Build user knowledge about groupware
	Formally recognize and reward groupware use to make groupware use legitimate
Mason & Hanger Corp.	Implemented a management information system which integrated all requirements for formalized business
	planning, scheduling costing performance measurement, and change control to provide management with
	real time decision making information
Planning and Scheduling	This study promotes inclusion of the following functionality in scheduling systems:
Benchmarks	Planning (Forecasting)
Resource Constrained	Scheduling and Prioritizing
Project Scheduling	Resource Loading (materials, manpower)
• Revised May 20, 1995, p.	Ranking Systems
20.	Insertion of New Work Capability
	Updating

• '	Volvo Trucks	This best practice promotes developing formulas to support decision making in scheduling.
•]	Marks & Spencer	 Develop scheduling options using algorithms, (i.e., establish rates and ranking for types of work, level of experience of staff, complexity of assignment, incorporate all rankings to develop a formula to develop scheduling options)
		• "Companies like Volvo Trucks and Marks & Spencer are using genetic algorithms that allow computers to "shuffle scheduling options as if they were strands of DNA." Using the algorithm in a program called OptiFlex, Volvo is able to evaluate possible solutions that have been ranked according to costs, labor constraints, material availability, and productivity. British retailer Marks & Spencer used the algorithm to assess customer credit by "evolving incremental improvements in its scoring formula." The Bios Group is exploring other possible applications of the genetic algorithm. Created as a partnership between Ernst & Young and professor Stuart Kauffman from the Santa Fe Institute, the Bios Group is looking at the algorithm to solve problems such as "how to price electric power in a auction market and how to model financial markets."
•]	Department of Energy	This best practice promotes the integration of supporting systems to maximize value of scheduling systems.
	. 90	Systems to be integrated include:
		• Graphics
		Tracking Systems
		• Milestones
		Decision Support (What If)
		Project Budget Spreadsheets
		Cost Drivers and Cost Schedules
		 Graphic Scheduling. This module consists of two schedule trackers. The Shop Floor Specific Scheduler allows the craft person to interface with the project level Critical Path Schedule and is updated by the craft person. The project Critical Path Schedule provides the overall picture over many years for the craft persons and projects management; shows plus/minus schedule problems; and accommodates a what-if analysis. Cost and Schedule Planning Document. This module allows personnel, from the shop floor to vice-president, to easily see budget outlays for a given project. This module is user friendly; consists of spreadsheets combined with graphics; and allows the user to see when costs will occur and what activities are driving the costs.
		 Cost and Schedule Reporting Document. This document is a modified Cost/Schedule Control Systems Criteria used to report Budget Cost to Work Schedule; Budget Cost to Work Performed; Actual Cost to Work Performed; variances; and budget at project completion. This report ties directly to the Cost and Schedule Planning Document."

•	NASA Kennedy Space
	Center

This best practice describes detailed approaches to developing system capabilities and tools supporting planning and scheduling.

- Use computer-aided process planning tools
- Development team with functional and technical users produced system after technology team developed initial program.
- Use constraint-based algorithms
- Include conflict resolution capabilities
- "Ground Processing Scheduling System"
- KSC developed the Ground Processing Scheduling System (GPSS), an artificial-intelligence-based, work-scheduling tool, as part of its Integrated Work Control System (IWCS). Currently being used in its development stage, GPSS is the primary scheduling tool for supplementing the existing computer-aided, process-planning tools of the Orbiter Processing Facility. A KSC development team produced the GPSS based on initial scheduling algorithms developed by NASA Ames Research Center.
- Influences on the complexity of the scheduling task include 24 major (most being in parallel) subsystems connected with the orbiter configuration and resource constraints associated with the supporting tasks, frequent rescheduling due to unexpected events, and the need to communicate schedule information in a timely manner. The development team used the Ames constraint-based algorithms to model the temporal, configuration, and resource constraints of each processing activity. These models then compare individual task schedules, resolve conflicts, and produce schedules, which contain minimal constraint violations.
- KSC has granted a license to a software development company, which has developed a commercial version of the program. The licensing rights are now nonexclusive, and KSC is interested in future licensing agreements with other interested commercial parties."
- NOTE: License granted to Red Pepper Software, which was acquired by PeopleSoft in 1996.

Harris Semiconductor	This best practice supports use of prioritized forecasts to drive production and measure performance.
	Production is driven by plans from prioritized forecasts.
	"Manufacturing now builds to the IMPReSS plan that is derived from the prioritized demand forecasts
	supplied by product line marketing, and product lines have financial responsibility for the resulting
	inventory. Factories are now rated on performance against a centrally developed global production plan."
• Ultimus	This company presents a list of the 100 most essential features for workflow automation. The list is
	categorized and has specific details describing the function of each feature. The list includes:
	Security features (i.e., user access, data)
	Server features (housekeeping)
	Client features
	Administrator features (views for costs, work load)
	Organization Chart features
	Designer features (routing, tracking, graphics)
Naval Avionics Center	This best practices presents experience with using Commercial Off The Shelf Scheduling packages versus
(Raytheon Technical	developing applications in house.
Services Company) -	COTS packages for control systems may be inflexible
Indianapolis, IN	User friendly packages are recommended.
	A streamlined and user-friendly Cost and Schedule Control System has been developed. Because of the ease
	and effectiveness demonstrated by this system and the difficulty to use many of the pre-prepared control
	systems, the Navy approved experimental use of this system on the Seawolf Project with favorable results.
	The system has now been expanded for use on several other Navy projects
Harris Semiconductor	This best practice addresses the use of both functional and technical experts on the application development
	team.
	"Software initially developed at the University of California, Berkeley in association with SRC has been
	adapted and further developed by Harris to incorporate specific factory models for each facility."

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• ASME	A Best Practice study conducted identified these team skills requirements:
	Project Management
	Budgeting
	Project Risk Analysis
	Design Reviews
	Information Processing
	• Communication
	Sketching/Drawing
	Leadership
	Conflict Management
	Professional Ethics
	Teams and Teamwork
U.S. Army Combat	This best practice presents a process for developing and communicating forecasts for scheduling.
Systems Test Activity	Both daily and weekly schedules by division are published.
(Aberdeen Test Center) –	Forecasting drives the development of schedules
Aberdeen, MD	Coordination with process managers develops forecasts.
	"Formal weekly and daily schedules based on monthly forecasts coordinated with the test directors are
	published for range firing, automotive, engineering support, and military personnel."
Harris Semiconductor	This best practice promotes use of varied periodic planning reports to manage production.
	Use long and short-term planning.
	Weekly reports provided to manage production
	• "The 18-month planning horizon is updated weekly, and weekly product availability is supplied to the order
	entry system to provide interactive delivery quotes. Schedules are optimized by integrating prioritized
	demand data from marketing, product structure data from product engineering, work in process and
	inventory data from each factory, capacity models from each factory, and material availability data from
	purchasing"
US Web Corporation	This best practice promotes use of knowledge management tools to support effective resource management.
	For example, using a skills database to maintain current experience and skills for more effective resource
	management.
	• "US Web Central 's staff profiles is more than a simple competency map. By moving beyond mere skills or
	competency profiles, people are accessed by numerous factors that deepen their value within and to the
N. 14 4 5 6	organization."
Naval Avionics Center	This best practice promotes development of systems that require less training and are user-friendly.
(Raytheon Technical	Using user-friendly systems reduces the need for training. CONTRACT OF THE PROPERTY OF T
Services Company) –	Some systems are developed from COTS applications from popular user-friendly software packages.
Indianapolis, IN	

	"The Cost and Schedule Control System has been successful in practice on the Seawolf Project for over 18
	months. Little training is required to use the system, which uses off-the-shelf EXCEL and MacDraw software."
U.S. Army Combat	This best practice addresses the cost/benefits associated with automation.
Systems Test Activity	Using fewer resources relates to operating at a lower cost supporting investing resources in developing this
(Aberdeen Test Center) –	tool.
Aberdeen, MD	Data storage is more efficient and therefore over time will recoup any initial cost of acquiring supporting
,	technology.
	Costs of process decreases with centralization – fewer staff responsible for process equals reduced cost and
	creates opportunities to focus on other work.
	"Benefits of automating this process over the previous handwritten system are increased accuracy and
	efficiency. Data storage has greatly improved, and most paper has been eliminated. The process facilitates
	communication and coordination, allowing more to be accomplished with fewer resources and at lower cost."
U.S. Army Combat	This best practice promotes centralizing process for effective management of resources and scheduling.
Systems Test Activity	 Daily schedules are primary data used to manage resource distribution in a matrix organization.
, and the second	
(Aberdeen Test Center) –	Central Coordinating Unit owns scheduling process.
Aberdeen, MD	"CSTA has developed a centralized scheduling process under the ownership of its Resource Coordination
U.S. Army Combat	
Systems Test Activity	integrated into the workload.
(Aberdeen Test Center) –	In this case, all activities were not prioritized; the more unpredictable workload groups were not scheduled.
Aberdeen, MD	Those groups not scheduled were given priorities established by a centralized scheduling unit.
	"Most scheduling requirements have now been centralized within RCD which schedules 80% of the support
	resources at CSTA. Those groups not directly scheduled are provided priorities by RCD. These are generally
	for services such as failure analysis and chemical laboratory services that are difficult to forecast".
U.S. Army Combat Systems Test Activity (Aberdeen Test Center) –	Division (RCD). RCD produces monthly, weekly, and daily schedules that distribute resource requirements from a matrix organization of support groups in an optimal way to meet the needs of the test directors." This best practice indicates cases where not all work was scheduled, and how the unscheduled work was integrated into the workload. In this case, all activities were not prioritized; the more unpredictable workload groups were not scheduled. Those groups not scheduled were given priorities established by a centralized scheduling unit. "Most scheduling requirements have now been centralized within RCD which schedules 80% of the support resources at CSTA. Those groups not directly scheduled are provided priorities by RCD. These are generally

BEST PRACTICE INDUSTRY	SUMMARY
World Class Insurance Company	• Extended Reports Distribution (ERD) system allows all reports to be viewed on-line by everyone
Large Government Contractor	• Information is readily available electronically throughout all levels of the organization through bulletin boards and email
Buckman Laboratories	"Intranet" housed on CompuServe connects all members
	Linked to outside e-mail systems for communications with customers – serves as a technical forum
	Leadership champions the system
	Formal and "virtual" forums use company-wide expertise to solve problems
Chevron Corporation	Best Practices Resource Map
	Best Practices Database
	Best Practices Teams
	Knowledge Centers
Dow Chemical Company	Define the existing intellectual assets portfolio
	Classify the intellectual assets
	• Is the business using it?
	Will the business use it?
	Incorporate into the business strategy
	How are assets being used?
	Where are the gaps in achieving business objectives?
	Invest to fill gaps
	• Acquisition
	In-house development
	Add to existing portfolio
Hewlett-Packard: Product	Leveraging best practices in "new product generation"
Processes Organization	Charting knowledge flows
	Pulling down barriers to collaboration
	Developing a collective view of the business
National Semiconductor	Providing access to information: World Wide Web and Lotus Notes
	Increasing the value of information: "Faculty Clubs"
	Creating a collaborative knowledge community: "Interest Profiles," "Sharing Rallies"
Philip Morris	Accelerating the transfer of key findings

	Creating user-directed software applications
Cl I'. A EC	Establishing a common language using metaphors of community
Skandia AFS	Recycling structural capital
	Developing a set of intellectual capital indicators
	Issuing a balanced intellectual capital annual report
	Creating intellectual capital controllers
• VeriFone	This best practice explores the use of advances technology throughout the firm for knowledge sharing.
	Network is used to disseminate material such as employee files, office forms, budget information, purchase
	orders
	Electronic training for new-hires
	100% accessible anywhere and anytime
	Equips employees with portable computers and telecommunication devices
• Gensym	This best practice shows the use of tracking customer information and the importance for different levels o fthe
	organization.
	• Established a help-desk that connects all aspects of its customers' world in one central electronic repository.
	System is linked to a company wide database of customer information, ranging from support issues to
	development requests
	Repository contains information as mundane as customer names and addresses, and as specific as solutions
	to common problems for various applications.
	Tracks customer requests and monitors work flow so that outstanding customer requests and queries remain
	current until they are handled.
• GIT	This best practice shows the use of technology and the Internet to share information within the company and
	with its clients and shareholders.
	Technology links all members of the enterprise to one another and to all relevant external publics
	Posts holdings of its four equity portfolios on Internet
	Allows current and potential shareholders to follow GIT investment decision-making
	Shareholders are offered a level of service not available to other mutual fund customers
Incyte Pharmaceuticals	Technology links all members of the enterprise to one another and to all relevant external publics
	 Provides a proprietary database holding tens of thousands of gene sequences extracted from tissue libraries
	Uses hypertext markup language that enables non-Incyte scientists to move from Incyte's database to related
	ones. Results in discoveries beyond the concept of the database's creators
Arthur Andersen	Used technology to create an institutional memory that is accessible to the entire enterprise
	Global Best Practices knowledge base saves time and money since professionals do not have to continually
	conduct the same research to address client problems
• Fiat	Used technology to create an institutional memory that is accessible to the entire enterprise
	Establishing a memoria technica – an engineering knowledge bank
	Spreads knowledge by accumulating it in specialist departments and then disseminating it to cross-

		functional design teams
•	Digital Knowledge Assets	Fosters development of "human-centered" information technology
	(DKA) – Chicago-based	• Uses GroupLens in its Information Environment to allow users to store items, such as Web pages or articles,
	systems integrator	in an object repository
		• Users compile profiles for themselves through reading items and ranking their significance. Information is
		stored in the Information Environment so that when new information arrives, it issued to help route it to
		those who have given related items a high ranking.
•	Domino's Pizza, Inc.	Technology that supports collaboration is rapidly placed in the hands of employees
		• Employs field managers to act as consultants and moderators between Dominos and its franchisees.
		• Uses "IntellAgent Control" which allows for a high level of customization and aids in tracking requests and
		problems.
•	Rosenbluth International –	• Created Global Distribution Network (GDN) to connect reservation agents across the globe with complete
	travel service	records of all its clients
		• Automatically checks for lower fares until departure time and prompts for often-used words so that agents
		do not unnecessarily repeat typing while inputting information
•	Standard & Poor: Rating	Background:
	Information Services	 Produces 400 different publications intended to help readers evaluate credit risks
		Documents were produced manually in an inefficient, time-consuming, and error prone manner
		Committee representatives from senior management, information technology, and production/editorial
		teams helped design and implement the new system
		Uses electronic document management software with work-flow capabilities to route document pages
		through the production process
		Solicited system design input from a wide variety of personnel
•	Borgess Medical Center	Made documents available quickly to people who needed them
		Implemented an electronic document management system in its emergency department to speed the
		retrieval of patient information
		Doctors now have instant access to patient charts, lab and radiology reports, and EKGs, enabling them to
		begin treatment almost immediately

Hunt-Wesson Grocery Products Companies	 Background: Proposed changes were submitted on paper, then manually routed around the company for approval Process took as long as 60 days Limited company's ability to change its recipes and manufacturing processes during short growing and canning seasons Chose an electronic document management system with work-flow capabilities so that it could make faster changes to product recipes and manufacturing specifications Improvements: Proposed changes are submitted electronically and automatically routed to the appropriate people Approvals now take days instead of weeks
Dauphin Deposit Bank and Trust Company	 Manual process relied on loan documentation specialists to evaluate each loan application to determine which supporting forms were required, then complete them using a typewriter or word processor Jeopardized the bank's ability to take control of loan collateral when documentation specialists chose the wrong forms Automated repetitive, paper-intensive processes Improvements: Used BPR to analyze the work-flow of the loan application process Helped management define the form selection process for each type of loan and account, resulting in standardized commercial loan procedures Procedures were incorporated into the document management software so that every type of loan application had corresponding, step-by-step instructions
 Union Bank of California Shell U.K.'s Stanlow petrochemical plant 	 This best practice emphasizes tracking and maintaining backup client information. Ensured the security of documents in the system Has emergency data backup plan in place to protect its customer account information Inputs customer data to the system and information is automatically recorded on an on-line optical storage disk at Monterey Park Simultaneously, a duplicate copy of that data file is transmitted over the company's network to an off-site facility in San Diego, where it is indexed and archived to a redundant optical storage disk In case of earthquake, fire, etc., the bank can switch its network over to the contingency site Purchased electronic document management system to manage its plan engineering documents Designed a system that scans hard-copy engineering documents, indexes them, archives them, and makes
	 them available for retrieval and viewing Comprehensive training program, coupled with on-site vendor consultants prepared employees to ensure the system operated efficiently

Jones, Day, Reavis &	This best practice focuses on the efficiency and importance of a company-wide electronic document handling
Pogue	system.
	• Organizes its documents in an efficient, enterprise-wide system that has 2 principal components:
	• Work product management: work in progress documents related to current client representations; lawyers and administrative staff contribute documents to this part of the system on a daily basis
	 Work product retrieval: finished documents, usually chosen from work product management by attorneys in the practice groups that serve as a body of precedent for others doing work in the future (considered the knowledge base)
	Committed to ongoing technological improvement
	• Uses a combination of electronic document management software and groupware to organize its documents in an enterprise-wide system that enables employees to create, share, retain, reuse, and build on the knowledge that exists across departments and functional areas
	• Committee of information systems specialists and partners meet quarterly to shape technological direction of the firm
	No decisions are made without soliciting the input of the intended users
	• Continuous improvement resulted in moving to DOCS Open: includes Intranet, full text search, and work-flow capabilities and facilitates a more seamless integration with Jones, Day's groupware application
	• Uses a combination of system controls, internal procedures, and compliance audits to ensure that the documents in its system are accessed only by authorized personnel
	 Heavily trains its employees to preserve the integrity of the system and promote efficient use
	Established help-desk for support
Global Best Practices:	Create a document classification scheme
Manage Records and	Organize documents in an efficient, enterprise-wide system
Documents	Comply with all regulations affecting the company's documents
	Establish document management policies and procedures
	Adhere to a document retention and destruction schedule
TransCanada PipeLines	Began standardizing and connecting department intranets creating a system called InfoNet which
Inc.	incorporated a product containing a document management system, a graphical workflow program, and
	internet-intranet indexing and searching tool, and a project collaboration system. The project collaboration
	system was an "electronic whiteboard" used to organize projects.

BEST PRACTICE INDUSTRY	SUMMARY
World Class Insurance Company	 This best practice shows the change in beliefs and values associated with handling workloads. The old mindset of redistributing work as being negative has changed. It used to be that giving up work to another part of the organization meant simply that your division could not handle the workload. The group that was able to absorb the workload was viewed as not having enough to do in the first place. Now, the division that gives up work is being viewed as being short handed and in need of assistance. The other group is viewed as having down-time or more resources and able to assist. The changes include: Decisions are made at the employee level and then brief superiors Corporate culture is strong and consists of: Services to members/customers Commitment to employees Mutual respect and trust Continuous learning and change OPD illustrates this organization's embrace of continuous improvement.
Large Government Contractor	 All costs are viewed as variable There is not a "use or lose" mentality, but a "give and take" mentality Leadership seeks to create an awareness of strategic goals and encourage employees to think "organization" opposed to "job". Management framework emphasizes consensus without politics and bureaucracy Fosters environment of fairness, where everyone has a voice and their opinion counts Believes in continuous improvement
Large Government Services Provider	 Management makes an effort to embed organizational mission into every employee's actions. Teamwork is valued and emphasized by management; teams and SDN team leaders are empowered to mak decisions Working to encourage sharing workloads
Manufacturing Company A	 Structure evolves every 5 years Marries customer service, taking care of their people, understanding their workload Uses balanced scorecard for performance measurement Machine performance is prior to individual's performance, so there is little incentive to "game the system"
Autodesk, Inc. (USA)	 This best practice shows the culture change of a focus, to a "Customers First" philosophy. "For us, customer service is the priority, and that goes for customer service within our group, too," said the Manager of the Computer Assistance Department at Autodesk, Inc. Invests in stress-reduction tactics for employees – spent more on indirect lighting, painted room soft yellow, and actively encouraged investment in intranet supported help.

	• Aligned goals of user support with the overall strategic goals of the company to be cost effective and efficient.
	Assistance Center Manager can show executives that the investments in customer service saved the company
	money and improved workforce productivity, despite the increasing complexity of computing problems users
	report.
Action Ware (formerly	This best practice shows the importance of knowledge sharing.
Appintec Corporation) –	 Married evolving technology to corporate business practices, procedures, and core values.
develops and markets	• 1988-Built software to support its internal sales and marketing operations. Every piece of the firm's
workplace automation	information, except for individual personal records, from sales leads to financial statements, became available
software	to all employees. This open book sharing of information has remained viable because of the trust and
	discretion that has been imbedded in the culture
Chesapeake Corporation	• Each department is viewed as an "internal company" and is responsible for its own operations. The company's
emesupeume corporation	open book management provides employees with all the financial information they need to make decisions
	regarding operations and capital purchases and improvements
USAir	 Self-directed work team in a shop where airplane hydraulic systems are maintained asked for the replacement
USAII	cost of every part it handled, information that no one thought these workers needed to know.
	 The new need-to-know approach, which gives information to mechanics whenever they require it, allows
	them to make informed decisions about overhauling versus purchasing. This access to information makes their
	own work more efficient, and also cuts company costs.
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Vance International	"When knowledge is not shared, disaster is not far behind" Change has been been stated to the shared.
	Shares knowledge at every organizational level
	Local Area Network (LAN) links computers stores ALL information and everyone has equal access.
Altair Computing	This best practice focuses on identifying and developing a key relationship with the customer.
	Customer value creation is acknowledged as a major objective of knowledge management
	Information sharing with customers is essential to successful product development
	 Company attempts to identify interested customers who are willing to co-invest to pursue a new technology
	Tests results of R&D initiatives with customers
Royal Bank of Canada	Created a comprehensive customer database and made it available online to all branches and offices enabling
	staff members to respond rapidly to loan requests
	Spotlighted additional opportunities for the bank